

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
D E P A R T M E N T O F H E A L T H



Safe and Healthy Lives in Safe and Healthy Communities

**BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE AND
DISCIPLINE**

No. C02-118B

C02-239

**IN THE MATTER OF
CHRISTOPHER F. HUNTINGTON, M.D.
LICENSE NUMBER MD 9300**

Consent Order

Pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws §5-37-5.2, 1956, as amended, (2002 Reenactment) notifications of adverse actions taken by area hospitals were reported to the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline regarding Christopher F. Huntington, M.D. ("Respondent"). The notifications alleged poor surgical decision-making and a failure to adhere to the minimum standards of acceptable practice in the area of orthopedic surgery.

FINDINGS OF FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The Respondent is a licensed physician practicing orthopedic surgery in Rhode Island since 1996 with privileges at two area hospitals. He is a 1990 graduate of Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia, PA

2. The Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline was notified of restrictions placed upon the Respondent by an area hospital due to an excessive number of adverse surgical clinical events on spine cases performed.
3. In addition, the Board learned of a 47 year- old patient with back pain and scoliosis underwent spinal fusion surgery that resulted in paraplegia.
4. In the cases reviewed, the Board finds that the Respondent's selection of patients, peri-operative planning and intra-operative decisions making did not meet acceptable standards of care.
5. The Respondent was sent by the Board to a certain clinical skills evaluation program and another continuing medical education program. The evaluation demonstrated appropriate skill, knowledge and thought processes for the practice of orthopedic surgery.
6. After consideration of the extensive hospital based peer review and the Board directed evaluation program outcomes, the Board finds the Respondent did not meet acceptable standards of care with regard to the cases it reviewed. This violates RIGL 5-37-5.1(19).

The parties agree as follows:

Respondent admits to the jurisdiction of the Board.

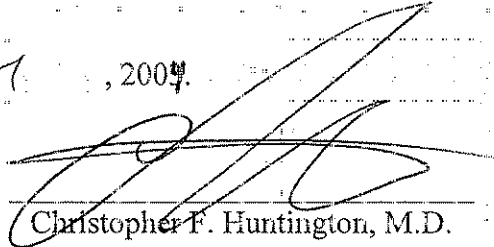
(1) Respondent hereby acknowledges and waives:

- a. The right to appear personally or by counsel or both before the Board;


- b. The right to produce witnesses and evidence in his behalf at a hearing;
 - c. The right to cross examine witnesses;
 - d. The right to have subpoenas issued by the Board;
 - e. The right to further procedural steps except for specifically contained herein;
 - f. Any and all rights of appeal of this Consent Order;
 - g. Any objection to the fact that this Consent Order will be presented to the Board for consideration and review;
 - h. Any objection to the fact that it will be necessary for the Board to become acquainted with all evidence pertaining to this matter in order to review adequately this Consent Order;
 - i. Any objection to the fact that potential bias against the Respondent may occur as a result of the presentation of this Consent Order.
- (2) Acceptance of this Consent Order constitutes an admission by the Respondent that the findings of fact were made by the Board.
- (3) This Consent Order shall become part of the public record of this proceeding once it is accepted by all parties.
- (4) Failure to comply with this Consent Order, when signed and accepted, shall subject the Respondent to further disciplinary action.
- (5) Respondent is issued a Reprimand in the instant matter. Respondent's compliance with the previous Board ordered evaluations and remediation

mitigate prospective probation. Additionally, previous restrictions on the
Respondent's practice are lifted.

Signed this 11 day of MARCH, 2007.




Christopher F. Huntington, M.D.



Gerard Goulet, Esq.
Attorney for Respondent

Ratified by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline at a meeting held
on March 10, 2007



Patricia A. Nolan, MD, MPH
Director of Health